

Day 8

Leaving Chambers Wildlife Apartments we head north to Kingfisher Park at Julatten for a one night stay. On the way we look out over Lake Mitchell where Black Swans and Brolgas can often be seen amongst other waterbirds. We also visit East Mary Farms for Australian Bustard, Pacific Baza, Collared Sparrowhawk and Australian Bushlarks. At Kingfisher Park we can spend the rest of the afternoon birding in the grounds, which has walking trails through its 12 acres, consisting of rainforest, open grassed orchard and the permanent waters of Bushy Creek. Over 218 species of birds have been recorded locally, plus many marsupials such as Striped and Green Ringtail Possums and Northern and Long-nosed Bandicoots, as well as Platypus which occurs in Bushy Creek. One of the star birds here is the Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher which should just have arrived to breed.

Day 9

An early start sees us driving down to Daintree for a morning bird cruise on the Daintree River. Great-billed Heron, Black Bittern, Little Kingfisher and Papuan Frogmouth, are amongst the highlights we hope to see. We can birdwatch for the rest of the day in the Cairns area. The Cairns region is very productive in terms of bird species, as the 'wet tropics' support a high concentration of rainforest species. We can perhaps visit the nearby Botanical Gardens to look for Lewin's, Brown-backed, Bar-breasted and Yellow Honeyeaters, Green Pygmy-Goose, Metallic Starling and Yellow Oriole. We stay at Cairns overnight.

Days 10 to 12

This morning we take a flight to Bamaga at the tip of Cape York where we transfer to Bamaga Resort for a stay of three nights. Cape York is the only place in Australia where we can see some of the typically New Guinea birds such as Palm Cockatoo, Magnificent Riflebird and Trumpet Manucode. We spend these days birding in the Cape York area, going from the rainforest at the very tip of the continent through the drier eucalypt savannah which covers most of the peninsula. Specialities include Palm Cockatoo, Magnificent Riflebird, Trumpet Manucode, Yellow-billed Kingfisher, White-faced Robin, Northern Scrub-robin, the endemic Frill-necked Monarch and Yellow-legged Flycatcher. White-

streaked Honeyeater is also a possibility, as well as Red-bellied Pitta.

Day 13

This is essentially a travel day and we take the morning flight to Cairns and connect with the Brisbane flight, with some chance of local birding at Bamaga before the flight. We stay overnight in Brisbane.

Days 14 to 16

After breakfast at our hotel we set off from Brisbane to Lamington via Manly and the Daisy Hill Koala Sanctuary. We soon arrive at O'Reilly's Guesthouse where we stay for three nights. The reason we are spending the last few days of our tour here is quite simple - O'Reilly's Guesthouse, set at 1,000 metres (3,300ft) above the surrounding country, is one of the finest birding spots in Australia. The country is sub-tropical rainforest with some ancient Antarctic beech forest, remnants of Australia's pre-eucalypt era. Here it is possible to have over 100 Crimson Rosellas and a few King Parrots trying to land on your head at a local feeding station, and you will be treated to some wonderful birds, not least the stunning Regent Bowerbird, along with the Satin Bowerbird. The bird list is superb and we shall probably see Noisy Pitta, Rose, Pale Yellow and Eastern Yellow Robins, Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Logrunner, Olive Whistler, Bassian Thrush, Shining Bronze-Cuckoo, Black-faced and Spectacled Monarchs, Rufous Fantail, Scarlet Honeyeater, Green Catbird, Grey Goshawk, Pacific Baza, Emerald Dove, Wonga and Topknot Pigeons and Paradise Riflebird. We can go spotlighting for Southern Boobook, with a chance of Sooty Owl and Marbled Frogmouth as well as nocturnal marsupials. Albert's Lyrebird breeds in the austral winter, but there is a chance that we may see one as we walk quietly along the rainforest trails. We celebrate our tour in the "land-down-under" with a farewell meal looking out of the large glass windows at Mountain Brush-tailed Possums and Sugar Gliders coming to the feeding station, after Regent Bowerbirds and Lewin's Honeyeaters have taken the fresh fruit - a fitting end to a diverse birding tour.

Days 17 & 18

In the morning we leave O'Reilly's and return to Brisbane and catch our flight back to London. We arrive back at London early the following morning.



Spotted Catbird



Brush Turkey

Outline Itinerary

Day 1	Depart London
Day 2	In transit
Days 3-5	Cairns
Days 6-7	Chambers Wildlife Apartments, Lake Eacham
Day 8	Kingfisher Park, Julatten
Day 9	Cairns
Days 10-12	Bamaga
Day 13	Brisbane
Days 14-16	O'Reilly's Guesthouse, Lamington National Park
Day 17	Depart Brisbane
Day 18	Arrive London

Party Size

Maximum of 11 clients (two leaders with more than six clients).

Accommodation

Comfortable accommodation in twin/double and single rooms, with private facilities.

Transport

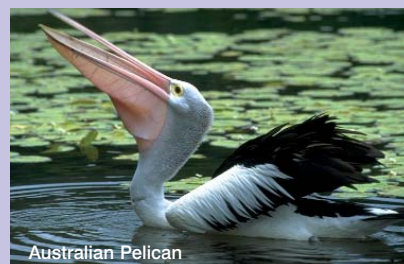
By private coach and minibus.

Includes

All flights, meals, accommodation, transport, entry fees, services of the leaders, airport taxes and tips.

Gratings

	Good
	260
	Warm to Hot
	Low
	Normal
	Moderate
	Good
	Moderate
	Scheduled



Australian Pelican